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COMICS
GROUP

NO. 39

WEEK ENDING
JULY 6, 1977

THE GREATEST SUPERHERO OF ALL!

CAPTAIN BRITAIN

10¢



A SUPERHERO
GONE **MAD!**

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

CAPTAIN BRITAIN!

IN A MINDLESS TRANCE, PRODUCED BY THE RAYS FROM A MYSTERIOUS GEMSTONE--CAPTAIN BRITAIN TURNS UP AT A SILVER JUBILEE CEREMONY AND LAUNCHES AN ATTACK ON THE QUEEN HERSELF!--AS THE HORRIFIED CROWD SEE--

A THRONE THREATENED!



DOWN WITH
THE FEMALE
TYRANT!

--WHO MISRULES
OUR BRITISH
REALM!

STONE ME!
IT'S CAPTAIN
BRITAIN!

GOOD HEAVENS!
HE'S HURLING
RIGHT AT ME!

AND AMONG THE AWESTRUCK
ONLOOKERS ARE CHIEF INSP.
THOMAS OF THE YARD...AND A
SINISTER LURKING FIGURE!

BLASTED SUPERHERO'S
DONE HIS NUT, LIKE I
ALWAYS SAID HE
WOULD!

AT LAST
MY COUNTDOWN
TO TRIUMPH
BEGINS!

I HAVE TRANS-
FORMED CAPTAIN
BRITAIN INTO A
MINDLESS
MISSILE!

A MISSILE
AIMED AT THE
THRONE
ITSELF!

THE FELLOW'S GONE
STARK RAVING MAD!
GET BEHIND ME, DEAR--
QUICKLY!

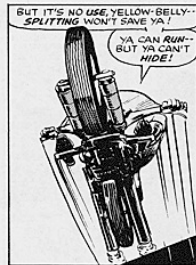
BUT I CAN'T
SHOOT HIM TO SAVE
HER MAJESTY!...NOT
IN THIS CROWD!

PLOT BY BOB BUDIANSKY * SCRIPT BY JIM LAWRENCE
ART BY RON WILSON * PABLO MARCOS * ZIPS BY
BRIAN H. MOORE * LETTERS BY J. WATANABE
EDITED BY LARRY LIEBER



*ISH 38--LARRY.







A WHIRLWIND BLOW KNOCKS THE HIGHWAYMAN FROM HIS MOUNT!



--MAKE YOU UNDERSTAND THAT I'M ONLY CARRYING OUT THE MASTER'S ORDERS!

SEIZING THE MONOCLED MERCENARY BY THE

SAVE YOUR BREATH, BOYO!

THROAT--CAPTAIN BRITAIN SHAKES HIM AS A TERRIER SHAKES A RAT!

LIKE IT OR NOT--YOU'RE GOING TO HEAR ME OUT!

YOU'LL NEED IT!



--AFTER THIS STUN-RAY BLAST FROM ME MONOCLE!

THE JOLTING FORCE OF THE BLAST --HEAD-ON AT SHORT RANGE--FLAT-TENS CAPTAIN BRITAIN!

ALL RIGHT--CARRY ON, EVERYONE! HER MAJESTY IS OUT OF DANGER.

OUR BULLY-BOYS IN NO SHAPE TO CUT UP ROUGH AGAIN--BUT I'LL CHAIN HIM TO MAKE SURE!



HA! IT WAS A PIECE OF CAKE!

THE MANIPULATOR'S CRAFTY LITTLE SCHEME WORKED EVEN BETTER'N I HOPED!

AND HERE'S THE FUZZ, RIGHT ON SCHEDULE!



OK, FRIEND--YOU RATE A WORD OF THANKS FOR SAVING HER MAJESTY--BUT DON'T PUSH YOUR LUCK!

TAKE THE LAW INTO YOUR OWN HANDS AGAIN--AND I'LL NICK YOU SO FAST IT'LL MAKE YOUR HEAD SPIN!



IN YOUR EAR, COPPER! HERE COMES THE QUEEN HERSELF T' THANK ME!



MEANWHILE, CAPTAIN BRITAIN REVIVES TO FIND HIMSELF HELPLESSLY CHAINED!

D-DON'T UNDERSTAND ...DID AS I WAS COMMANDED ...WHY DID HIGHWAYMAN FIGHT ME...



HOW CAN I EVER THANK YOU FOR SAVING ME?

I MUST SAY--I'M AT A LOSS TO UNDERSTAND SUCH AN ATTACK BY CAPTAIN BRITAIN!

OFF HIS CHUMP, I EXPECT!



BUT AS CAPTAIN BRITAIN IS LED OFF IN CHAINS--

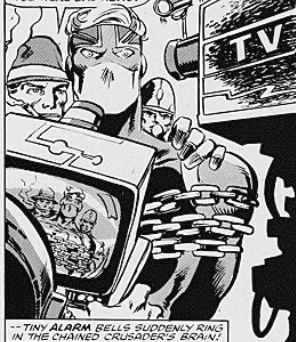
SO FAR, SO GOOD!

SOON ELIZABETH HERSELF WILL BE UNDER MY CONTROL AS MUCH AS THAT MUSCLEBOUND FOOL WHO MASKS HIS FACE WITH THE UNION JACK!

GETTIN' BACK T' YER GRACIOUS MAJESTY'S QUESTION--A DEKKO INSIDE BUCKINGHAM PALACE IS ALL THE HONOUR ME HEART DESIRES.

SOON, AS MICROPHONES AND TV CAMERAS RECORD A SUPERHERO'S DEFEAT AND DISGRACE--

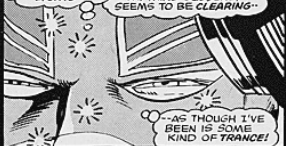
I WARNED THE YARD ALL ALONG-- I TOLD THEM YOU WERE BAD NEWS!



--TINY ALARM BELLS SUDDENLY RING IN THE CHAINED CRUSADER'S BRAIN!

THE BRIGHTNESS OF ALL THESE LIGHTS

--IT'S LIKE SUNSHINE BURNING AWAY A FOG! MY MIND SUDDENLY SEEMS TO BE CLEARING--



--AS THOUGH I'VE BEEN IN SOME KIND OF TRANCE!



AND WITH HIS SUDDEN AWAKENING COMES A STUNNING REALIZATION!

MY GOD! I'VE ATTACKED THE QUEEN!

WHAT FRIGHTFUL IRONY! I, WHO SWORE TO DEFEND THIS NATION, NOW STAND ACCUSED AS HER WORST ENEMY!

I MUST ESCAPE-- AND TRY TO CLEAR MYSELF!

BUT I CAN'T UNTIL I GET FREE OF THESE CHAINS...

...AND EVEN CAPTAIN BRITAIN'S MUSCLES CAN'T BREAK STEEL LINKS!



UNDER TIGHT SECURITY, THE PRISONER IS HUSTLED INTO A WAITING POLICE CAR!

INSIDE, YOBBO!



YOU'VE FLOUTED THE LAW FOR THE LAST TIME!

NOW YOU'VE HAD IT!

YOU'LL BE BOOKED! THEN I'M RIPPIN' OFF THAT DAMN MASK! I WANT EVERYONE TO SEE YOUR KISSER IN THE DOCK, Y'HEAR?!

LOUD AND CLEAR...



AT THIS BLEAK MOMENT, CAPTAIN BRITAIN'S EYES SUDDENLY GLIMPSE AN ANSWER TO HIS DILEMMA!

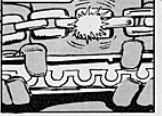
HE'S LAID MY STAR SCEPTRE BETWEEN US--CLOSE ENOUGH FOR ME TO REACH!

AND AS CAP'S FINGERS TOUCH THE MYSTIC WEAPON--



...HE WILL A CONCENTRATION OF "FORCE FIELD" ENERGY--

--WITHIN A STEEL LINK WHICH UNDER THE MOUNTING PRESSURE--



--SNAPS LIKE BRITTLE GLASS!



THEN, WILLING HIS SCEPTRE INTO FLIGHT, THE YOUNG SUPERHERO ZOOMS THROUGH THE CAR'S ROOF--



NO! COME BACK!

--AND AWAY TO FREEDOM!

LATER, AT HIS BROTHER'S FLAT IN CHELSEA, BRIAN BRADDOCK DISCUSSES HIS DILEMMA WITH HIS TWIN SISTER BETSY AND THEIR CLOSE BROTHER, RACING CAR DRIVER JAMIE BRADDOCK...



I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

BRIAN, HOW COULD YOU?!

I COULDN'T-- AT LEAST, NOT BY CHOICE!

I'M SURE THAT I WAS MADE TO DO IT-- WHILE UNDER SOME TYPE OF HYPNOSIS!

I JUST HAVE THIS FUZZY MEMORY OF BEING IN SOME KIND OF UNDERGROUND LAB--

--STRAPPED INTO A STRANGE MACHINE-- WITH A DAZZLING LIGHT SHINING IN MY FACE!

--AND A VOICE TELLING ME EXACTLY WHAT TO DO!

YOU MEAN, SOMEONE ORDERED YOU TO KILL THE QUEEN?

BUT HOW COULD THEY GAIN CONTROL OVER YOU? HOW??



I'M NOT CERTAIN! IT'S ALL SO DIM IN MY MIND!



ONE THING MY MIND TO SWEAR TO...

...THE HIGHWAYMAN DIDN'T REALLY SAVE QUEEN ELIZABETH! ON THE CONTRARY, HE'S IN ON THE PLOT HIMSELF!

AND IF THAT'S TRUE, THEN THE QUEEN IS STILL IN TERRIBLE DANGER!





NEXT DAY...
I'M THE BLOKE WHO
RESCUED THE QUEEN!
PROMISED ME A
TOUR OF THE PALACE,
SHE DID!

YES, I
KNOW. COME THIS
WAY, PLEASE!



HERE WE HAVE A PORTRAIT OF
THE QUEEN'S GREAT-GRAND-
FATHER, EDWARD III!

BLIMEY!
Y'DON'T SAY!

AND
UNLESS
WE EYES
DECEIVE ME,
HERE WE
HAVE THE
QUEEN'S
FAVOURITE
DIAMOND
RING...



...WHICH I SHALL
NOW LIGHT
FINGER FROM
ITS CASE...

...AND
REPLACE
WITH AN
IMITATION,
THAT HAS THE
MANIPULATOR'S
STONE!



HERE NOW! VISITORS
AREN'T ALLOWED TO
TOUCH THE ROYAL
POSSESSIONS!

SORRY,
GUV--
DIDN'T
KNOW!

PROBABLY INTENDED TO
LIFT IT! SHOCKING, THE TYPES
WE GET THESE DAYS!



SOME TIME LATER,
BRIAN BRADDOCK
REACHES PORTS-
MOUTH!

THERE SHE IS,
ABOARD THE
ROYAL YACHT!

I'VE BEEN
FOLLOWING THE
QUEEN EVERY-
WHERE SHE GOES
FOR HER SILVER
JUBILEE CELE-
BRATION...



LATER, AT SPITHEAD, THE QUEEN WATCHES
THE FLEET PASS IN REVIEW...

NO SIGN YET
OF ANY THREAT
TO HER!

BUT UNKNOWN TO BRIAN...



...THE MANIPULATOR ALSO
WATCHES--UNTIL IT'S TIME TO
PRESS A FATEFUL BUTTON...

NOW!

...WHICH BEAMS A SIGNAL TO THE GEMSTONE
IN ELIZABETH'S RING!

I--I HEAR,
MASTER... I
OBEY...



AND AS THE GEM'S RAYS GLEAM
OUT--HYPONOTIZING THE ENTIRE
FLEET--H.M.'S WORDS ARE
BROADCAST ABOUT THE HARBOUR!

OMIGOD! HER MAJ-
ESTY'S FALLEN UNDER
THE SAME SPELL
I DID!

I,
YOUR
QUEEN...
SHALL
LEAD
YOU TO
AFRICA...

NOW
WHAT?
EVEN
CAPTAIN
BRITAIN
CAN'T
STOP THE
ROYAL
NAVY!

...TO
RECONQUER
UMBAZI!
FOR ITS
RIGHTFUL
RULER!

CONTINUED IN
SUPER-
SPIDER-MAN/21
SEA FURY!
FEATURING:
THE SINISTER
SECRET
OF THE
MANIPULATOR!

Tell it to The CAPTAIN!



ART CREDITS

Dear People concerned with the latest and greatest Marvel Production,

Finally things begin to look really good for C.B. At first, despite colour, Herb Trimpe's art left something to be desired. But then, for only one week, we had the magnificent Buscema/Palmer team. Next week we had the Buscema magic, but Kida's inks were not a patch on Palmer's. From then on up to issue 31, Palmer and Kida seem to have rotated. Surely that was not a satisfactory situation for your supposed pride and joy? Then with issue 31 came Wilson/Budiarsky/Kida and the art seemed good. With issue 32 the art has taken on breathtaking proportions. The shots of C.B. hanging on to the Hawk are magic. Please keep these men on the artistic chores.

But while there have been inconsistencies artwise, the story has improved week by week since the glossy covers were introduced. Now I feel that C.B. is at least on par with your American editions. Inspector Thomas takes on aspects of J. Jonah Jameson, but retains originality, and a bit more credibility than Jonah because of his real reasons for hating Super-heroes. STRIKE is a promising organisation, and I don't see how anyone can't hate Tanner after issues 31 and 32. But, best of all, Lord Hawk is a superb villain who has the real essence of an eccentric, but, underneath it all, a startling amount

of truth can be seen in his causes.

Fury's art also suffered with colour, but now, disregarding issue 32's reprint, Steranko is back on top. The F.F. are great. Team-Ups plots are weak, but provide a great excuse for some epic battles which would otherwise be impossible.

James McIntyre,
RFO, KOF, QNS,
268, Camrose Avenue,
Edgware, Middlesex.

We agree with you about the quality of the Wilson/Kida/Budiarsky combination, James. Although it was a pity we couldn't have kept Big John Buscema on C.B. for longer, the art certainly hasn't declined in quality since he finished pencilling. And some Bullpeners believe—albeit bashfully—that the present Ron Wilson/Pablo Marcos duo are producing the best art yet seen on Captain Britain. What do other Marvelites think?

MARVEL IN FRANCE

Dear Marvel,

I think Captain Britain is great, and I really like the Spider-Man Team-Up at the end which is very exciting. I enjoyed Captain Britain's Team-Up with Captain America, and hope that he'll be meeting a few more American super-villains like the Red Skull.

Another thing. I'll be going to live in France quite soon, and would like to know if I'll be able to buy Marvel Comics there. I don't mind if they're in French, because I speak it quite well, but I would like to know if all your mags are sold there, and if they are the same stories.

Keep up the good work.

Mark Leblanc,
London.

If you're a Comic fan, Mark, then you're probably gonna like living in France! Yup, you can get Marvel Comics there, not the British Weeklies, but a beautiful colour mag called "Strange—Le Journal des Super-Héros", in which are printed the adventures of your fave Marvel Heroes. Aside from Marvel reprints, there are many, many other comics of very high quality published in France, including the legendary "Metal Hurlant". Happy reading, Mon Ami!

THE NEXT HERO?

Dear Larry, Gary, et Al,

Once more you have prompted me to write about Britain's greatest Superhero.

The Lord Hawk saga has finally (I think!) ended as I pen this moronic missive, and I really think that Gary and Larry have excelled themselves on the scripting chores. Perfect characterisation, and a sub-plot or two thrown in for good measure! The artwork by Ron Wilson, B. Budiarsky, and Fred Kida was nothin' to sneer at either!

Now, onto the controversial

matter of the next British Hero. Why not let Galactus find a way to come back to life (he was bumped off in the pages of the F.F.) and select an Irish farm girl to be his next star-spanning herald. She could rebel against her master, as did the Silver Surfer, and return to her native planet. You could think up some suitable powers for her, Gary, but make them original.

There, I suppose you won't use that idea, but at least I tried! Keep up the good work, and in the worlds of our glorious leader, Stan the Man, "E pluribus the Captain!"

Tim Rogerson,
92, Abbott Road,
Didcot, Oxon OX11 8HZ.

"Shouldn't that be 'E Pluribus Centurio'?"
"Aw, shuddup, Wiseguy! Whadja think this is—Oxford University or somethin'?"
"I was only trying to get it right. . ."
"Well, now you've gone an' upset Tim!"
"Sorry, Tim!"
"Shouldn't that be 'Me paenitet'?"
"Since when did you speak Latin?"



SUMMER SPECIALS?

Dear Stan,

I just can't say how great Captain Britain is, especially with the new glossy cover. I like it in black and white, rather than in colour, and have nearly every issue.

Spider-Man Team-Up with the Torch was magnificent. In issue 7 it was good when the Hurricane was destroyed. But I've got a question for you: will there be a Captain Britain Summer Special?

Yours sincerely,

William Savage,
3, Fortfield Drive,
Teneriffe,
Dublin 6.

No, there won't be a Captain Britain Summer Special, William. It has never been our policy to publish Summer Specials, like other comic publishers. However, we do bring out Treasury Editions all the year round—and there will be a Captain Britain Annual towards the end of the year!

CAPTAIN BRITAIN MAILBAG
MARVEL COMICS, TUBS HILL HOUSE,
SEVENOAKS, KENT

FANTASTIC ONE

*Just between
us, I don't know
what this silly contraption
is, either!
Keep smiling -
Reed*



THE WORLD ABOVE... THE DOOM BELOW!

THE THING HAVING JUST SAVED KALA, QUEEN OF THE NETHER-WORLD AND THE MOLE MAN'S BETROTHED, NOW FINDS HIMSELF TRAPPED BY THE AFOREMENTIONED DEADLY DUO.

WHAT'S GOIN' ON HERE? SHEESH! REALLY WALKED RIGHT INTO THIS ONE, DIDN'T YA, MR. GRIMM?

ROY THOMAS
WRITER/EDITOR
JOHN BUSCEMA-ARTIST
JOE SINNOTT-INKER
ARTIE SIMEN-LETTERER





YOU TALK BIG, SHORT-STUFF... BUT I SEEM TO RECALL THERE'S ANOTHER UNDERGROUND NAPOLEON, NAME OF TYRANNUS!

WHAT'S HE GOT TO SAY ABOUT THIS "SUPREME OVERLORD" CRUD?

OH YES... MY OY ANTAGONIST...

YOU-- LACKEY! COME HERE!



LOOK, WORM OF THE UPPER AIR...

LOOK UPON THIS MESMERIZED SLAVE WHO SERVES ME MOST WILLINGLY OF ALL...

...AND TELL ME THAT I AM NOT MASTER OF MY SUNKEN SPHERE!



YOU ACKNOWLEDGE MY SUPREMACY IN SUBTERRANIA-- DON'T YOU, TYRANNUS?

YES... GREAT ONE!!!

ULLA!!



NOW THAT YOU HAVE BEEN VERBALLY CHASTIZED, MR. GRIMM, IT PLEASES ME TO HUMBLE YOU FURTHER...

...BY REVEALING TO YOU MY PRECISE PLAN FOR WREAKING REVENGE ON THE WORLD WHICH SCORNED ME...

ME--ITS MOST BRILLIANT SCION.



BEHOLD YONDER SHAFT--

--A HUGE HERCULEAN DAGGER-- POISED AND POINTED AT THE SOFT UNDERBELLY OF THE OUTER WORLD!



BUT IT ALSO THRUSTS DOWNWARD-- DOWN THRU ROCK AND SHALE AND BASALT--



--DOWN TO THE VERY CENTRE OF THE PLANET--THE GREAT MOLTEN CORE WHICH LIES SEETHING BENEATH EVEN OUR FEET--

"MY SPECIALLY-CONSTRUCTED, ALL BUT INDESTRUCTIBLE SHAFT WILL TAP THAT MOLTEN HEART--



--FUNNEL UNTOLD MEGATONS OF BURNING LAVA UP THRU LONG MILES, AND SPEN THEM OUT INTO THE METROPOLIS WHICH LIES MOST NEARLY ABOVE US--INTO NEW YORK CITY--!

"AN, BUT THAT WILL BE ONLY THE BEGINNING--!

"ALREADY, OTHER SHAFTS ARE BEING BUILT BY MY ALMOST LIMITLESS NUMBER OF SERVANTS-- AND THESE WILL BE UTILIZED SOON AFTER--"

"--TILL ALL THE HATED SURFACE WORLD IS AFIRE--"

--AN ETERNALLY-
BLAZING
MONUMENT
TO THE MIGHT
AND MAJESTY
OF THE
MOLE MAN!

YER FULLA
BEAMS,
JERK!

WHAT MAKES
YA THINK YOU
CAN DRILL SO
CLOSE TO ALL
THAT LAVA
YOU WUZ
TALKIN'
ABOUT?

YOU MAY
ANSWER
HIM, MY
DEAR.

GLADLY,
MY LOVE...

"REMEMBER, BEN GRIMM... IT IS NOT WE OURSELVES WHO LABOUR ON THESE SHAFTS, BUT MY BELOVED'S SELFLESS, HIGH-MINDLESS SUBTERRANEANS..."

"THEY KNOW
NO CAUSE FOR
LYING BUT
TO SERVE
THEIR MASTER
...TILL DEATH
DO THEM
PART!"

"ALREADY, COUNTLESS THOUSANDS OF THEM HAVE BEEN CONSUMED BY ACCIDENTALLY-ESCAPING FLAMES OVER THE PAST MONTHS--"

"BUT THAT
IS LESS THAN
ONE PERCENT
OF THEIR
TOTAL
NUMBER.
IN SHORT,
THEY ARE
THE MOST
EXPENDABLE
OF CREATURES--"

OUR SHAFTS-- DESIGNED BY KALA'S ENGINEERS AND BUILT BY MY MINIONS-- WILL CAUSE THE DEATH OF THREE BILLION!

THREE BILLION SOULS-- NONE OF WHOM WILL EVER MOCK ME AGAIN!

--AND
THUS,
THE
MOST
USEFUL!

I HAD YOU FIGGERED
ALL WRONG, QUEENIE.

YOU AN'
MOLEY ARE
THE BIGGEST
MASS
MURDERERS
SINCE
HITLER!

THAT IS
NOTHING,
GRIMM...
SIMPLY
NOTHING.

HITLER? A MERE
AMATEUR--
RESPONSIBLE
FOR A PALTRY
20,000,000 DEATHS!

MOLE MAN,
I THINK
YOU JUST
SAID THE
MAGIC
WORD!

I BEEN STRUGGLIN'
ALL ALONG, TRYIN'
TO GET LOOSE-- BUT
I COULDN'T QUITE
MAKE IT--

MAYBE 'CAUSE
I WAS FIGHTIN'
JUST FOR ME
--AN' A GAL
NAMED
ALICIA!

BUT NOW, LOOKS
LIKE I GOT
A WHOLE PLANET
TO SAVE--



--AN' BLAMED
IF I DON'T
THINK I MIGHT
JUST BE UP
TO IT!

YOU FOOL!
YOUR
WRITHINGS
WILL MERELY
INTENSIFY
YOUR
SUFFERINGS!



MEBEE--
THAT'S THE
DIFFERENCE--
BETWEEN US,
CREEP!

I--DON'T
MIND A
LITTLE
SUFFERIN'--
IF I GOT
ME--A GOOD
REASON--



AND YOU
JUST GAVE ME
**THREE
BILLION**
OF 'EM!!



I--
DID IT!
I'M
FREE!!

BUT, I FEEL
WEAK--AS
A BLASTED
KITTEN--!

BELOVED--
WE MUST
STOP
HIM,
BEFORE--

NOT WE,
DEAREST,
WE NEEDN'T
SOIL OUR
OWN REGAL
FINGERS...



...NOT WHILE MY
SUBTERRANEANS
STILL ABOUND!

MOST TIMES...
I COULD TAKE
ALLA THESE
FUNKS...WITH
ONE LITTLE
PINKY...

BUT...
NOT
NOW...



...NOT
NOW....!

YET, WHO IS TO SAY WHAT COURAGE A MAN MAY FIND, IN THE SUDDEN DESPERATION OF A MOMENT... FIND, AND RIP UNTIL FROM THE UNPLUMBED DEPTHS OF HIS SOUL?



AN ABSTRUSE PHILOSOPHICAL QUERY, THAT..!

STILL, ONE WHICH THE OH-SO-SINISTER SUBTERFUGEANS COULD ANSWER THIS DAY...



IF TONGUE OR MIND COULD MOVE THEM...

LIKE THE THING'S HAMMERING FIST!

SHADES OF THE SUBSTRATA!



TRULY, THIS ONE IS A FOE MORE FORMIDABLE EVEN THAN IRON MAN.

HE SEEMS HURT, AND IN BITTER PAIN--YET HE ESCAPES, AND WE CANNOT STOP HIM!

YOU UNDER-ESTIMATE ME, LOVELY ONE.

PERHAPS IN ONE SENSE BEN GRIMM HAS ESCAPED...

"BUT, I FORESAW THAT POSSIBILITY...AND SO, THE ELECTRIFIED WEBBING WHICH HELD HIM HAD MORE PURPOSES THAN ONE.



"THUS, EVEN AS HE NOW STUMBLES AND STAGGERS HENCE, TO LICK HIS WOUNDS AND FIGHT ANOTHER HOUR...

"...THAT SECONDARY PURPOSE TAKES EFFECT, WITHOUT HIS KNOWLEDGE OR SUSPICION...

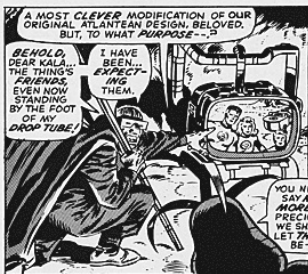


"...A DELAYED-ACTION EFFECT WHICH ALTERS THE ELECTRICAL AURA WHICH SURROUNDS ALL LIVING CREATURES...



"...ALTERS, CHANGES HIM...SO THAT ANY EARTHLY EYES WHICH NOW MAY BEHOLD HIM, WILL SEE HIM AS THE MOST LOATHSOME OF MONSTERS."





A MOST CLEVER MODIFICATION OF OUR ORIGINAL ATLANTIAN DESIGN. BELOVED, BUT, TO WHAT PURPOSE--?

BEHOLD, DEAR KALA... THE THING'S FRIENDS, EVEN NOW STANDING BY THE FOOT OF MY DROP TUBE!

I HAVE BEEN... EXPECTING THEM.

YOU NEED SAY NO MORE, MY PRECIOUS. WE SHALL LET THEM BE--



"...THEIR COLLEAGUE'S EXECUTIONERS!?"

BEN COULD BE ANYWHERE-- IN A MILLION DARKENED SIDE-TUNNELS.

WHICH WAY DO WE GO, REED?

I DON'T KNOW, SUE. FOR ONCE-- I JUST DON'T KNOW!

GOTTA KEEP MOVIN'... GOTTA...

WELL, I'LL BE A--



MY VOICE IS SHOT... JUST LIKE THE REST OF ME.

BUT... IF I CAN JUST REACH 'EM...

HERE I AM, KIDS... RIGHT OVER HERE...



LOOK-- UP THERE-- ON THAT RIDE! WHAT THE DEVIL--?

I SEE IT, JOHNNY, AND WHAT'S MORE-- IT SEES US!

REED-- IT'S CHARGING US! IT'S HIDEOUS-- MONSTROUS-- WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING--!



WHAT'S WRONG WITH THEM? THEY ACT LIKE THEY DON'T RECOGNIZE ME!

HERE COMES THE TORCH! THAT'S MORE LIKE IT.

IT'S ME, MATCH-HEAD! YER OL' PAL BENNY! NOW LET'S CUT THE CRUD, AN'--



NO SWEAT, LEADER-MAN! I GOT 'IM!

ONE MORE BLAST LIKE THAT ONE--

--AND THAT MONSTER'S NEVER GONNA MENACE ANYBODY AGAIN!!

NEXT:
DEATH
IN A
DARK
AND
LONELY
PLACE!
CONTINUED
IN SPIDER-MAN #232!

FANTASTIC TWO





A PULSE- POUNDING PREVIEW OF POWERFUL TALES AND TITANIC TUMES

ITEM! Did you ever feel that Mighty Marvel keeps making changes just to see if you're paying attention. Well, you must admit, it keeps things from getting dull! Anyhow, to make way for some bombastic bombshells this autumn, next week we'll be making the ultimate merge as Captain Britain joins the line-up of Super Spider-Man. Now who could ask for a more powerful title than that?

ITEM! Meanwhile, this week in Super Spider-Man 230, we have more of the merely magnificent Marvel magic that you've come to know and love. The ol' Webslinger himself has his hands full with that south-of-the-border baddie, the Tarantula, while the Avengers continue their all-out battle with the dynamic Defenders. Oh, though we hate to be the bearers of bad news, this ish features Iron Man's swansong -- at least for now. But as we said last time around, nothing, but nothing, ever dies for good at Marvel.

ITEM! Now to something a little more stable. Mighty World of Marvel No. 249 features the beginning of perhaps the greatest Dracula saga of all -- the wedding of the Lord of Darkness! Yep, ol' Drac is becoming a married man, and if that's not enough, wait'll you see the child that he fathers in an upcoming issue! Sheesh! In the selfsame issue everybody's favourite Green Goliath, the Hulk, is finally back on Earth after his recent several-issue, atom-hopping adventures, and he's at his usual battling best. Also on top this time around, is the wind-up of the Daredevil/Black Widow/Scorpion free-for-all that we started a few issues back. And what a wind-up it is! And following that free-for-all, we have a Kree-for-all with the beginning of a whole new chapter in the life of Marvel's space-bound Warrior, Captain Marvel! Pick up MWOM No. 249, and see what we mean!

ITEM! Lastly, we come to the latest ish of the newest member of our liltin' line-up, FURY No. 17. Our two respective squads, are both fighting fast and furiously in the Pacific theatre of war this time around to protect the good ol' Allies from the Nipponese Nasties circulating in that area. Not only that, but just for good measure we've thrown in a third Far Eastern battle tale called "Dateline: Iwo Jima!"

ITEM! Next week we'll tell ya exactly what will be in the new Super Spider-Man and Captain Britain, and maybe drop a couple hints as to what great things we'll be throwin' atcha this autumn. See ya then!

Stan Lee **NICK FURY, AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D.!**
PRESENTS: **SUPREME HEADQUARTERS INTERNATIONAL ESPIONAGE LAW-ENFORCEMENT DIVISION!**



THE OTHERS' SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN!

ROY THOMAS
PLOT

ARCHIE GOODWIN
SCRIPT

FRANK SPRINGER
ART

ARTIE SIMEK
LETTERS

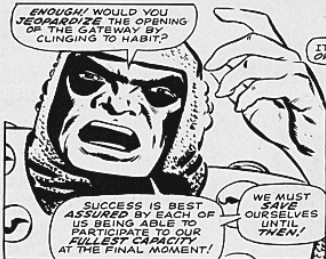
STAN LEE
EDITING



GUARD 18! YOU
PRE-COMMUNICATED
THAT YOU WERE
BRINGING THE HUMAN
PRISONER AND THE
LAST PRODIGAL
TO US!

HASN'T THE IMPORTANCE
OF CONSERVING ALL
EXTRA-SENSORY POWER
BEEN MADE CLEAR TO YOU?!

BUT CO-ORDINATOR...
SPEECH IS SO SLOW
AND PRIMITIVE, SO
UNNATURAL, I--



ENOUGH! WOULD YOU
JEOPARDIZE THE OPENING
OF THE GATEWAY BY
CLINGING TO HABIT?

SUCCESS IS BEST
ASSURED BY EACH OF
US BEING ABLE TO
PARTICIPATE TO OUR
FULLEST CAPACITY
AT THE FINAL MOMENT!

WE MUST
SAVE
OURSELVES
UNTIL
THEN!



I FIGGER YOU'RE PART OF THE
OPPOSITION NOW, RANDALL...BUT
YA COULD AT LEAST CUE ME IN ON
WHAT THIS

IT'S STILL HAZY IN MY
OWN MIND, FURY, BUT--

MUMBO-JUMBO
IS ABOUT!

BE SILENT,
PRODIGAL! BY
WHAT RIGHT
SHOULD A HUMAN
MAKE DEMANDS
ON ONE OF THE
OTHERS?!



BY A LOT BETTER
RIGHT THAN YOU
AN' YOUR FELLOW
CREEPS CAN SET
UP A WORLD FOR
A KING-SIZE
CLOGGERIN'!

FOR YEARS, YOUR BOY RANDALL
LIVED WITH US, WORKED WITH
US, WAS ONE OF US...TRUSTED
AN TREATED AS A FRIEND...

MAYBE TO A BIG DEAL "COLLECTIVE
INTELLIGENCE" THAT'S NOTHING!
BUT I FIGGER IT LEAVES 'IM OWIN' A
COUPLA WORDS OF EXPLANATION!

SAVE YOUR EMOTIONAL
OUTBURSTS! THIS
"WORLD" YOU PRIZE SO
HIGHLY IS BUT A
PRISON TO US!

BUT, TO BATHE THE GLAZE OF TIME
FROM THE PRODIGAL'S GROUP
MEMORY, LET ME RECOUNT THE
COMING OF THE...OTHERS!

LET ME
RECOUNT THE
TRAGIC HOUR
WHEN THE
TIMELESS
DIMENSION
THAT IS OUR
HOME WAS
ROCKED BY
COMBAT
OF COSMIC
SCOPE...

THE MAD
FOOLS!
RATHER THAN
HAVE THEIR
TYRANNY
ENDED,
THEY'VE
DETONATED
THE IMPACT
INDUCER!

THERE
IS
NO
ESCAPE!

ITS EVER-
RADIATING
RIPPLES OF
POWER
WILL ROCK
EVERY
CORNER
OF OUR
DIMENSION!

ONE CHANCE
REMAINS...A
DIMENSIONAL
GATEWAY!

EVERY PARTICLE
OF OUR GROUP
INTELLECT MUST
BE BROUGHT TO
BEAR AS THE
SHOCK WAVE HITS...

"AND THE MASSIVE
MENTAL WILL, COM-
BINED WITH THE
BRUTAL IMPACT,
CRASHED THE SHIP OF
SURVIVORS THROUGH
A DIMENSIONAL
BARRIER TO
A WORLD CALLED...
EARTH!"

"THE SHIP WAS BROUGHT
DOWN INTO THE
DESOLATION OF THE
ANDES, AND STEPS
WERE IMMEDIATELY
TAKEN TO BUILD A
PERMANENT HEAD-
QUARTERS WITHIN
THIS MOUNTAIN..."

"A COLONY HAD TO BE
ESTABLISHED...IT WOULD
BE ALMOST TWENTY
YEARS EARTH TIME
BEFORE THE IMPACT
INDUCER'S DEADLY
REVERBERATIONS
STILLED IN OUR
HOME DIMENSION..."

"THROUGHOUT THE LONG
EXILE, WE WORKED
UNCEASINGLY TO DEVISE
MEANS OF ARTIFICIALLY
RECREATING THE SAME
EXACT CONDITIONS
THAT BROUGHT US
HERE FOR OUR
EVENTUAL RETURN..."



"NOT THAT EFFORT WASN'T MADE TO ESTABLISH OUTSIDE CONTACT... BUT THE ATTEMPTS ALWAYS ENDED IN UNPROVOKED HOSTILITY! HENCE, WE CHOSE TO STYLE OURSELVES THE OTHERS, AND STAY APART FROM THOSE BARBARIANS WHO EXHIBITED ALL THE LATENT EVIL PRESENT IN THE TYRANTS FROM OUR OWN DIMENSION WHO CAUSED OUR EXILE HERE!"

"TO KEEP US POSTED ON THE BEHAVIOUR OF THE SAVAGES AROUND US, PRODIGALS WERE SENT INTO THEIR MIDST, GROUP MEMORIES BLANKED AND ARTIFICIAL ONES INDUCED TO ENABLE THEM TO PASS PERFECTLY WHILE FUNCTIONING AS RECEIVING SETS FOR US, TIME AND AGAIN, THE CRUEL, WALKING NATURE OF HUMANS WAS ONLY TOO WELL CONFIRMED..."



...IT LEAVES YOU HERE ON THIS DOOMED PLANET
WITH THE REST OF YOUR FELLOW MEN! WHILE
WE, IN NEXT MINUTES BY YOUR DECIDING,
SHALL SOAR SPACEWARD IN...

...THIS!

WE WILL BE
CARRIED TO A POINT
PRECISELY THE
DISTANCE FROM EARTH
THAT OUR ORIGINAL
SHIP WAS FROM THE
CENTRE OF THE
IMPACT INDUCER'S
DETONATION...

THE PLANETOID, BEING HURLED
TOWARD EARTH BY OTHERLY-
DIMENSIONAL POWER NO HUMAN
COULD BEGIN TO COMPREHEND OR
STOP WILL COLLIDE WITH SUCH
FORCE THAT THE CATASTROPHIC
WHICH FOLLOWS WILL RECREATE
THE ONE WHICH ORIGINALLY STRUCK
US!

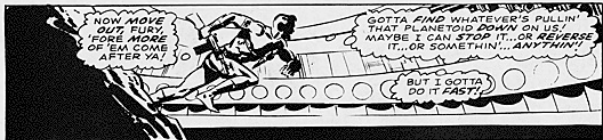
THAT IN PERFECT
CONJUNCTION WITH
THE SEARING
CONCENTRATION OF
OUR COLLECTIVE MIND,
WILL RIP OPEN
ANOTHER GATEWAY
BETWEEN OUR
DIMENSIONS...

...AND AFTER TWENTY YEARS
OF WAITING, LONGING, LOATHING
THIS BRUTAL AND PRIMITIVE
PRISON PLANET...WE SHALL BE
THE "OTHERS" NO MORE!

WE SHALL BE...
HOME!

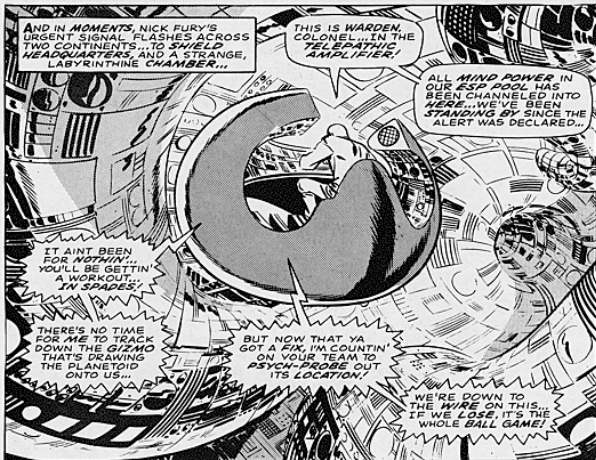






FRANTICALLY, DESPERATELY, THE INDOMITABLE DIRECTOR OF SHIELD HURLS HIMSELF THROUGH THE MYRIAD MAZE OF CORRIDORS AND COMPARTMENTS COMPRISING THE OTHERS' COLONY...





THEN, SECONDS EXPANDED TO ETERNITIES
CRAWL ENDLESSLY BY, UNTIL...

C-COLONEL...!

YEAH,
WARDEN,
YEAH?!

SIR...IT'S
UNBELIEVABLE
...WE'VE NEVER
COME UP
AGAINST
ANYTHING
LIKE THIS!

A...A COMPLETE PSYCHIC-
SHIELD OVER THE WHOLE
AREA...EVEN WITH OUR
ENTIRE ESP CREW...EVEN
PROBING THROUGH THE
AMPLIFIER...

IT...IT'S
IMPENETRABLE!

WARDEN...YA
GOTTA KEEP
TRYIN'...YA
GOTTA BREAK
THROUGH!

THOSE JOKERS
ARE SUPPOSEDLY
CONSERVIN' THEIR
MENTAL POWER!

THIS ISN'T A
CONSCIOUS EFFORT,
SIR...MORE LIKE
SOME NATURAL,
PROTECTIVE TRAIT
OF THEIRS!

THERE'S NO PSYCHIC-
PHENOMENA ON EARTH
TO EQUAL THIS!

NATURALLY, WE'LL KEEP
TRYING...YET THE STRAIN'S
ALMOST CERTAIN TO BRING
MENTAL COLLAPSE
AND DEATH TO THE
PROBE TEAM...

IT WOULD STILL
BE WORTH IT IF
ONLY IT WOULD
HELP, BUT...

EASY
WARDEN...
YA DONE
YOUR
BEST...

...NOW IT'S UP
TO ME!

MAYBE
THERE'S
ONE LAST,
ODDS-
AGAINST
TRICK TO
TRY

IF I CAN
JUST REACH
THAT ROCKET
OF THEIRS!

BUT AS THE INDESTRUCTIBLE
AGENT CHARGES TOWARD
THE LOADING AREA...



AND, WITH A HERCULEAN LEAP...



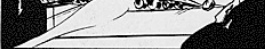


WITH THE MOCKING ROAR OF THE SPACE-BOUND ROCKET RINGING IN HIS EARS, FURY RACES TO HIS PLANE...



THERE GOES THEIR COLONY!

LIKE A SNEAK PREVIEW OF WHAT'S IN STORE FOR THE RESTA EARTH.



NUMBLY THE SHIELD DIRECTOR MAKES THE AGONIZING RETURN FLIGHT...



HOW D'YA DO IT? HOW DO YA LOOK THE WORLD IN THE EYE AND TELL 'EM IT'S ALL OVER?

BUT, AS THE DEJECTED RAMROD REPORTS...

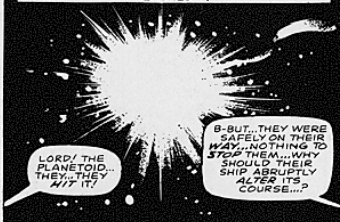
COLONEL! ON THE OBSERVATOR'S MAGNI-VIEW SCREEN... LOOK!

THAT THIN TRAIL OF LIGHT SWERVING TOWARD THE PLANETOID... WHAT...?



THE ROCKET! THE OTHERS' ROCKET...

AND SUDDENLY, THE HUGE SCREEN FLARES WITH A SEARING SPECTACLE OF COSMIC VIOLENCE UNLEASHED--!



LORD! THE PLANETOID... THEY... THEY HIT IT!

B-BUT... THEY WERE SAFELY ON THEIR WAY... NOTHING TO STOP THEM... WHY SHOULD THEIR SHIP ABRUPTLY ALTER ITS COURSE...?

POSSIBLY THERE WAS SOME MANNER OF MALFUNCTION...

...OR SERIOUS MISCALCULATION!

YOU SAW THEM, COLONEL... SPOKE WITH THEM... ANY THEORIES?

YEAH... MAYBE... AT LEAST... I'D LIKE TO THINK THAT WAS IT...

THAT WHAT WAS IT, SIR?

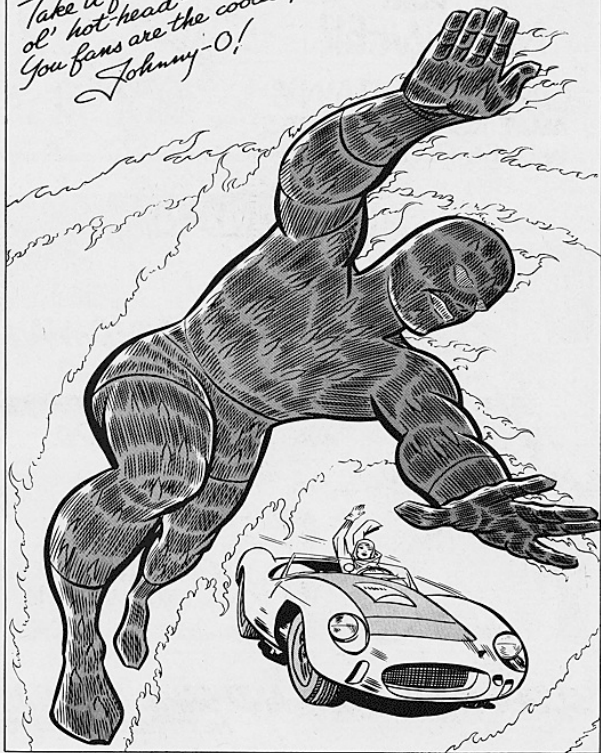
THAT MAYBE... WITH THE PLANETOID LOOMIN' BIG, BRIGHT, AN' DEADLY... MAYBE ONE PARTICLE OF THAT GROUP INTELLIGENCE FOUND OUT HE WAS HUMAN, TOO!



AS NICK FURY WALKS QUIETLY FROM THE CHAMBER, THE MAMMOTH VIEW-SCREEN BEHIND HIM FILLS WITH FIERY BRILLIANCE FROM THE FANTASTIC PAROXYSM'S AFTERGLOW... THEN FADES SLOWLY TO BLACK

FANTASTIC THREE

Take it from
ol' hot head
You fans are the coolest!
Johnny-O!



**AS FROM
NEXT WEEK**

**CAPTAIN BRITAIN'S
AMAZING ADVENTURES
WILL BE FEATURED IN**



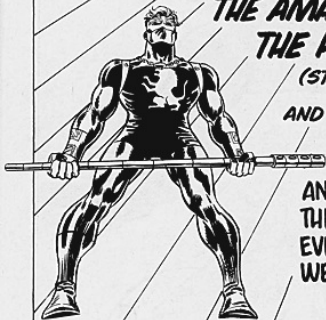
**SUPER
SPIDER-MAN**

ALONG WITH

**THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
THE FANTASTIC FOUR**

(STARTING THE WEEK AFTER NEXT)

AND THE AVENGERS.

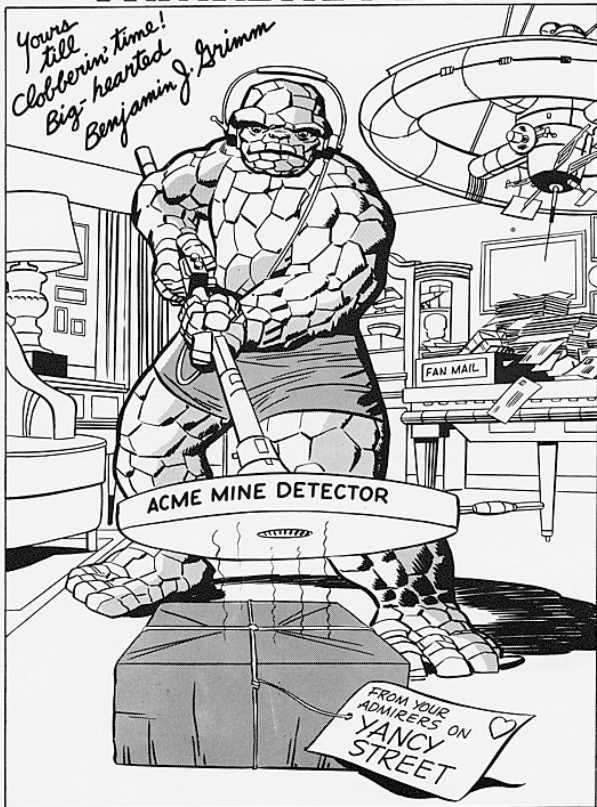


**AND IF THAT AIN'T
THE BEST LINE-UP
EVER FOR A MARVEL WEEKLY,
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT IS!**

**GET
SUPER SPIDER-MAN AND CAPTAIN BRITAIN
NEXT WEEK. PRICE 10p.**

FANTASTIC FOUR

*Yours till
Clobberin' time!
Big-hearted
Benjamin J. Grimm*



15
1977

SPECIAL
COLLECTOR'S
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MARVEL TREASURY EDITION

CONAN

THE BARBARIAN

50¢

THE CIMMERIAN'S
GREATEST ADVENTURES
CO-STARRING

RED SONJA

SHE DEVIL WITH A SWORD

JB
EC

THE MOST SAVAGE
SWORD-AND-SORCERY
HERO OF ALL!

ON SALE NOW!